

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims, in which text to be added is underlined and text to be deleted is surrounded by brackets, will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) An implantable medical device, comprising:
 - an expandable support frame having a plurality of struts interconnected by bends, at least one of the struts defining a first portion having a first width, a second portion having a second width, and a third portion having a third width, the second and third widths being greater than the first width and the first portion disposed between the second and third portions;
 - a graft member having an edge in contact with a surface of a strut of the expandable support frame; and
 - at least one attachment element disposed circumferentially around a strut and through a thickness of the graft member.
2. (Currently amended) An implantable medical device according to claim 1, wherein the at least one of the struts [strut] defines a serpentine path.
3. (Currently amended) An implantable medical device according to claim 2, wherein the at least one of the struts [strut] includes a curvilinear portion and a linear portion.
4. (Withdrawn) An implantable medical device according to claim 3, wherein the linear portion comprises the first portion having the first width.
5. (Withdrawn) An implantable medical device according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the second and third portions define a projection.

6. (Withdrawn) An implantable medical device according to claim 5, wherein the projection has a substantially square, substantially triangular, substantially rectangular, or substantially semi-circular cross-sectional shape.

7. (Withdrawn) An implantable medical device according to claim 1, wherein the second and third portions define first and second opposing projections, and wherein the attachment element is disposed around the strut and between the first and second opposing projections.

8. (Withdrawn) An implantable medical device according to claim 1, wherein the attachment element is disposed around the strut at the first portion of the strut.

9. (Withdrawn) An implantable medical device according to claim 8, wherein the attachment element is disposed around the strut and between the second and third portions of the strut.

10. (Currently amended) An implantable medical device according to claim 1, [wherein] the graft member further comprising [comprises] an extracellular matrix material.

11. (Original) An implantable medical device according to claim 10, wherein the extracellular matrix material comprises small intestine submucosa.

12. (Withdrawn) An implantable medical device according to claim 1, wherein the graft member comprises a natural or synthetic polymer.

13. (Original) An implantable medical device according to claim 1, wherein the graft member defines a valve for regulating fluid flow through the implantable medical device.

14. (Currently amended) An implantable medical device according to claim 13, wherein the [implantable medical device comprises a prosthetic] valve is adapted to regulate fluid flow through a body vessel in which said implantable medical device is implanted.

15. (Withdrawn) An implantable medical device according to claim 1, wherein the graft member extends substantially coplanar with the strut.

16. (Currently amended) An implantable medical device according to claim 1, wherein the graft member extends in a plane at an angle to the at least one of the struts [strut].

Claims 17-29 (Canceled)

30. (Withdrawn) A method of fabricating an implantable medical device, comprising:

providing a support frame having a projection in a first position;

placing at least a portion of graft material defining at least one opening on the support frame such that the projection is passed through the at least one opening;

bending the projection over a portion of the graft member such that a portion of the projection extends adjacent to the graft member; and

clamping the projection against the graft member and support frame.

31. (Withdrawn) An implantable medical device, comprising:

an expandable support frame having a plurality of struts;

a graft member having an edge in contact with a surface of a strut of the expandable support frame;

at least one clip member having a C-shaped inner surface disposed around

the graft member and the strut; and

securement means disposed between the graft member and the strut member.